

# Girl Scouts in Winchester

**1917:**

**April** - Girl Scouting in Winchester was first endorsed by the Special Aid Society. It was announced that a Girl Scout troop was being formed with Miss Helen Lane as leader. (Helen Lane was a Kindergarten teacher and Deaconess at the Parish of the Epiphany)

**May** - Several Troops of Girl Scouts are being formed under the auspices of the Special Aid Society. Mrs. Addison Pike named the first Commissioner. There will be an interesting talk on the subject of "Girl Scouts" in the small Town Hall on Monday, May 8, 1917 at 10:30AM.

**The following reprinted from The Winchester Star, May 11, 1917:**

"Mrs. Carl Dennett, assisted by Mrs. Steven Roblin, both of Boston, gave a comprehensive talk of the Girl Scout movement, Monday morning in the Town Hall. The presence of military men could hardly have been more impressive than were these two ladies in their broad hats and scout uniforms, and Mrs. Dennett's talk was clear, direct and to the point. We regret that personal charm and inspiration are not easily transmitted on paper.

Mrs. Dennett began by saying that in the present crisis in which every man, woman and child was called upon to do his work, the Special Aid was peculiarly the woman's problem.

A girl today can do practically everything that a boy can do. This has come to be recognized in the present world war as never before. Today women are driving motor busses, acting as conductors, policemen, working in all types of factories, in all classes of work heretofore handled by men. They are making munitions, handling the most complicated and difficult machinery; in England doing the actual delicate and machine work on high explosive shells and shrapnel which must be machined down to 1-2000 of an inch - the class of work that in this country men are being paid as high as \$10 a day to perform now. Three years ago, it was hard to make the world believe that it was possible for women to perform these functions. Today in England, where women have stood the real test of the emergency, she has shown her ability to perform the most difficult and intricate work in as competent and thorough a manner and more faithfully perhaps, than the most competent men in the same class of work. We are now amid the woman's era. The hour has come when she is able to show the highest efficiency. She has won the confidence not only of her sex, but of all practical, serious-minded men. It therefore devolves upon the young girls and young women to prepare themselves in every feasible way for the new and broader field which is open to them.

What is the purpose of the Girl Scout organization - to make boys out of girls? To teach them to dig trenches and to fight? are some of the questions asked by the uninformed.

Emphatically no!

At the earliest possible moment, the following principles are inculcated into the impressionable mind by intelligent leaders and directors.

**1st. Loyalty to country, mother and father.**

**2nd. Usefulness, Service to others. (The fifty scouts who presented themselves at the Armory in reply to a call for that number for national defense were with difficulty persuaded to return to their homes after their work so eager were they to serve)**

**3rd. Girl Scouts are friends to all and sisters to all other scouts.**

**4th. Purity (Here Mrs. Dennett laid especial stress on the importance of choosing the proper leaders)**

**5th. Kindness to Animals.**

**6th. Obedience to orders. (Military drill is not compulsory but it is advisable as it teaches unity, obedience and correct carriage)**

**7th. The Duty of cheerfulness.**

**8th. Thrift (The care of money, clothes, food etc.)**

What Sir Baden-Powell has done for Boy Scouts his sister is accomplishing for Girl Scouts. Three years ago, Mrs. Low organized the movement in Savannah; now there are scouts in Africa, Australia, Switzerland, Spain, Canada, Japan, and without doubt the order will become international.

There is no age limit. There was a twinkle in the eyes of the two Girl Scouts when Mrs. Dennett referred to an old country-woman (whose age she put conservatively at seventy-five) who represented herself as the only person in her home village who had had money enough to pay for a trip to Boston. No amount of discouragement had dissuaded her from becoming an active Scout. Who says the spirit of '76 is waning!

The regular Scouts are from ten to eighteen; the juniors from ten down and the seniors are grown-ups of all ages.

The girls are divided into groups of eight - as near as possible of the same age - under a Captain and a Lieutenant.

The aim of the leaders - girls of at least twenty - is not to teach, but to bring out the efficiency of her group. Mrs. J.J. Storrow, whose lecture was one of the enjoyable features of the Special Aid some weeks ago is arranging for a course of ten lectures at the reasonable rate of one dollar per pupil in which a Red Cross nurse will instruct Girl Scouts in various fields of usefulness. The knowledge of knot-tying is considered of significant importance in Scout work. A fireman called to teach a senior class ways and means for saving oneself and others in case of fire asked if the necessity arose for knotting sheets together how many could tie any but a granny-knot. He was greatly surprised to find that their knowledge of knot-tying equaled his own. The Girl Scouts are taught semaphore - the system is identical with that used in the Army - first aid; nursing; dietetics; sewing; knitting; cooking; care of children.

A month ago, there were one thousand regular Girl Scouts in Massachusetts; last month a thousand more applied for membership in answer to the President's call that every person should do his share. Mr. Wilson said that the struggle of the Army and Navy will be futile unless the women and children do their utmost to produce food.

Dr. Cabot had stated that the country is already in a state of famine - we are now 6 months behind time in food supply. If you cannot produce at least save. Facts from a New York rendering plant show that one third of the food heretofore considered to be garbage is now being saved.

Prohibition is a Scout slogan. Washington officials publish the following statistics: The grain used for alcoholic beverages for one year would be sufficient to supply 7,000,000 men with one loaf of bread per man, or to quote a Harvard estimate, sufficient to provide full sustenance for 5,000,000 men for one year.

When asked to define the difference between Camp Fire Girls and Girl Scouts Mrs. Roblin explained that the Camp Fire was merely national while the Scouts was an international movement. That the purpose of the latter was broader since the aim was universal service rather than the individual development, which, Scout organizers have realized was more surely attained in forgetfulness of self and labor for others.

The law permitting people to work in their gardens on Sunday was discussed. Mrs. Roblin, with a charming smile said that as a minister's wife she was not perhaps able to answer the question. Jesus went into the fields and gleaned for his disciples on Sunday. Great emergencies warranted freedom from restrictions

**June** - The local council of Girl Scouts consists of twenty-four women. Mrs. Addison Pike is Commissioner; Mrs. C.E. Eastwick, the First Vice-Commissioner; Mrs. Charles Zeublin, Second Vice-Commissioner; Mrs. John A. Maddock, Secretary; Ms. Herbert F. Underwood, Treasurer.

Five Troops have already been started in Winchester and the girls appear much interested in the work. All who desire to join a class for leaders should communicate with Mrs. Joseph F. Ryan, Cliff Street, Secretary of the Special Aid Society or with Mrs. Addison R. Pike, Commissioner, of 66 Church Street.

## History of Camp Joy

### 1931:

**May** - Mrs. Clifton hall Commander of the Winchester Girl Scouts entertained 21 Captains and Lieutenants Thursday evening, May 7 at her home on Lawrence Street. After a most delicious cafeteria supper, a business meeting was held. It was voted to give a June breakfast on the morning of Wednesday, June 3 from 6-9 AM in the Unitarian Church parish house. The proceeds from this are to go towards the building fund.

Plans for the rally which is to be held on the Brooks estate on Saturday, June 6 were discussed. It was decided to leave dedication exercises for the new Girl Scout house which is expected will be erected by that date if present plans of the building committee materialize. There will also be group games and awarding of badges followed by a picnic supper and camp fire.

#### Promotions for event:

Have you seen the log cabin in Randall's window? Did it remind you that you are scheduled to attend the breakfast given by the Girl Scout Captains, assisted by the council and troop committee members, June 3, 6 to 9 A.M. in the Unitarian Church. This is your way of assisting the Scouts to build their Winchester home, by buying a ticket and joining in a community breakfast showing your interest openly in our Scout activities. The cabin is now under construction. Wouldn't it be wonderful to dedicate it free from debt? Entrance to the ground is on Grove Street, at the Winchester end of the Brooks Estate. Dedication will take place on June 6 at 3 o'clock. A general enjoyable time following with games by the Scouts, Court of Awards, picnic supper, camp fire and taps. All friends are invited.

Unitarian Church, Wednesday, June 3 from 6 to 9 a.m. To raise funds for the new cabin on the Brooks estate. School tickets, 35 cents; adult tickets 50 cents; Special tables for business people wishing to catch trains. Free transportation for those unable to come otherwise. Tel. Win 1535 Tuesday

**June** - The Winchester Council Girl Scouts June rally was held at the new cabin in the Brook's Estate on Saturday afternoon, June 6. Exercises began at 3 o'clock around the flag with the Pledge of Allegiance, America the Beautiful, Slogan, Motto, Promise and Laws, led by Commissioner Hall. The Scouts followed the Bugle and Drum Corps to the front of the cabin and Drum Major Anita Wilson led the Bugle and Drum Corps in the "Thunderer" and they gave a very fine demonstration, all too short in the opinion of some of the fathers.

Commissioner Hall welcomed the guests and expressed sincere thanks to the cabin committee and to the trustees of the Brooks Estate for the use of their beautiful grounds. It was a source of immense pleasure to the Council to have Mrs. Shepherd Brooks and Mr. Gorham Brooks present at the dedication of the cabin. The Girl Scouts all repeated with Commissioner Hall the promise to "always love and cherish this cabin".

Mr. Reed pastor of the Unitarian Church talked awhile to the girls and called their attention to the fact that their new home was a cabin, not a house or a mansion or a palace, made of logs symbolizing the out-of-doors and the Pioneer days, the Lincoln days of our country. Mr. Reed told several amusing true stories reminiscent of his work with Boy Scouts in another town stressing the point of the Scout slogan "Do a good turn daily" and to do it according to the fifth law of Girl Scouts - "Courteously".

## **Girl Scouts at Winchester Help to Dedicate New Cabin**

More than 200 persons together with about 100 Girl Scouts and their leaders attended the dedication of the new Scout cabin on the Brooks Estate off Grove Street at this afternoon at 3 o'clock. In connection with the dedication exercises the Scouts held their annual June Rally. The Cabin is located on a slightly spot on the Brooks Estate. The privilege of erecting the Cabin on this spot was granted by Gorham Brooks and the trustees of the Peter C. Brooks Estate. The Cabin will be used as a meeting place and as a general headquarters for the eight troops and several members of the Winchester Girl Scouts.

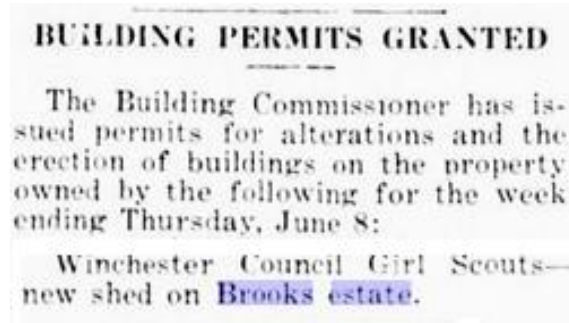
The dedication exercises were opened by the Scouts saluting the new flag in the rear of the Cabin. Music was furnished by the Drum and Bugle Corps led by Miss Anita Wilson.

The dedicatory address was by Re. George Hale Reed of the Unitarian Church. At the Close the merit badges were awarded.

**"GIRL SCOUTS AT WINCHESTER HELP TO DEDICATE NEW CABIN."** *Daily Boston Globe* (1928-1960): 1. Jun 07, 1931. *ProQuest*. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.

**N.B.** Rev. George Hale Reed was a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Winchester

**1933:** A permit was issued to erect a shed attachment to the cabin on the Brooks Estate.



**1945:**

**June** - The camp and cabin at the Brooks Estate was dedicated to the memory of Winchester's Girl Scouting great benefactor, Lucy Waterman Joy. From June 2, 1945 forward the camp will be appropriately called Camp Joy. As long as Girl Scouts enjoy camping the spirit of Mrs. Joy will live on with them at this beautiful spot.

**1948:**

**April** - On April 30, 1948 a revocable permit is issued by the MDC for the Girl Scouts to build a cabin in the Middlesex Fells Reservation on South Border Road in Winchester.

**October** - Girl Scout representatives discussed plans for building a camp to replace Camp Joy.

## 1949:

**May** - On May 15th the Girl Scouts had a dedication ceremony at the site in the Fells where the new camp and cabin will be located. This kicked off the drive to raise \$15,000 for the year-round recreation center. The campaign is known as "Buy a Log".

About seven hundred Girl Scouts their families and friends gathered at the new cabin site on Sunday afternoon. Most every troop was represented: and the parade, led by the Drum and Bugle Corps of the Church of the Immaculate Conception was a fitting opening and closing to the impressive ceremony.

The Rev. Snook in his dedicatory remarks and prayer, made us all realize how much we are hoping that these Girl Scouts and others all over the world are the future citizens of the world and are our own hope for a lasting peace.... for through understanding and mutual goals that may come to pass.....Every girl is a sister to every other Girl Scout.

Each succeeding speaker, in his or her own way repeated the thought that Girl Scouts and the Scout program is needed in all communities.... with Winchester, no exception. In fact, the record shows that Winchester is a leader in this section, with better than 57% of its girls in scouting.... hence the need for this new cabin.

Mrs. Kendall Bryan, of the Regional office of the Girl Scouts, mentioned the importance of a center such as we are aiming for...for outdoor activity as well as the indoor fun to be had.

Dr. Norris spoke of the need for Scouting and its lessons of citizenship, cooperation and democracy. he wished there could be more and closer bonds between scouting and the schools...and we say, "second the motion".... if we can only get more mothers to be leaders.

Mr. Bradford Bentley, as president of the American Camping Association, also spoke of the values of the out of doors to children, and the lessons learned of working, and playing together.... Scouts of all ages.

All in all, the day will long be remembered for the sun shone after all and we in Winchester Council of Girl Scouts feel it was a good omen.

### **Ceremony Program:**

Dedication of the site: Rev. John Snook

Flag Raising

"God Bless America"

Mrs. Kendall Bryan - Speaker

Brownie Flyups

Metropolitan District Commission

Dr. Norris - Speaker

"Hymn of Scouting"

Graduation of 8th grade Scouts

Recognition of First Class

"Girl Scouts Together"

Mr. Bradford Bentley. A.C.A. - Speaker

"Golden Sun"

The Winchester Women's Republican Club voted to donate to the Girl Scout fund drive for as new cabin.

There are no tents or pavilions at the site because all funds are being directed to the Cabin Fund.

**DID YOU KNOW**

That 58 out of every 100 girls of Scout age in Winchester are Girl Scouts? That is one reason why they need a new larger Year Round Recreation Center for Day Camp, Weekend Camping, Overnights, Square Dances, Father-Daughter Pow-Wows, Plays, and all the amazing variety of activities which volunteer leaders provide for your girls.

**BUY A LOG! BUY A LOG TODAY!**

Send your check to James B. Willing, Treasurer, 16 Ledyard road, or leave your contribution at The Girl Scout Office, 573

**WE CAN BUILD TWO-THIRDS OF  
OUR GIRL SCOUT CABIN!**

**WILL YOU FINISH THE JOB?**

A small fraction of your summer's recreation expense will finish the Girl Scout Year Round Recreation Center for 600 Scouts for the next twenty years!

**BUY A LOG — Send your contribution to James B. Willing, Treasurer, 16 Ledyard road, Winchester.**

### Girl Scout Notes - 6-10-1949

Three troops have started the rush to buy logs to build the new \$15,000 cabin in the Fells. Troop 3, 8th grade girls led by Mrs. Howard McCauley have been cooking over hot stoves for the last two weeks making delicious batches of fudge and selling them for 85cents a pound to buy 5 logs for the cabin. (We have logs ranging in price from \$100 down to \$1). Many of these girls also took active part in the operetta "Sunnyside" directed by Mrs. William McClintock, given in January which bought the first \$100 log.

Lincoln School Troop 7, led by Mrs. Kenneth Cullen, showed that they were good to the last "drip" when they collected and sold pounds of bacon drippings. Unfortunately, the price was not as high as it was during the war and it's a lot of work to find markets. But the girls did make a tidy profit with which they bought seven of the shorter logs that go up near the roof.

Troop 18 at Wyman, which Mrs. Arthur Pratt directs, curbed their appetites so that had some left in their treasury which would buy a brick or two for the fireplace.

Other troops are now dreaming up tricks which will make their contributions look like major logging camp operations.

\*\*The Water & Sewer Board is installing water and sewer service at the new Girl Scout Cabin in the Fells.

Camp Joy opened its Day Camp season with a total enrollment of 118 girls! After the opening Flag-raising the entire group went by bus to Wedge Pond for swimming. (Mrs. Metcalf has her senior life-saver's certificate and we are proud of her.)

The Girls returned to the new cabin site by bus and each age group was assigned an area for their unit. They chose the unit names and each one is most appropriate .... Unit 1. of 2nd grade Brownies are "Sloping Pine": Unit No. 2 .... 3rd grade is in the "Blueberry Circle": No. 3....4th grade "Flyups" are in "Sleepy Hollow": and No. 4....5th grade Intermediates are in "Friendship Grove: Unit 5...6th and 7th grade Pioneers are in ""Tanglewood".

The trails to the units are the "Upward Trail"; the ice box where the milk is kept is the "Cow"....and because a downy Woodpecker was seen near the spot chosen for the office, it is named "Woodpecker's Hole"; and Scout Afterglow is held in the "Granny's Den".

We are grateful to the M.D.C. for their preparation of the grounds at the new site, which we hope to have

complete with Cabin next year. We also wish to thank the Park Department for the storage spaces they have provided. And the Boy Scouts are being very gracious in offering us the hospitality of the Headquarters where we may secure water until our pipes are connected. Thanks to all. If you are wondering why there are no tents or pavilions. **It is because we are concentrating on getting the Cabin next year.** If you haven't sent in YOUR contribution, do it now. BUY A LOG, BUY A LOG TODAY!

**July -** For July and August, Winchester Hospital is glad to lend its downtown bulletin board to one of its sister agencies in the Greater Boston Fund family, the Winchester Council of Girl Scouts.

The board has now been covered with an announcement of the fund drive to build a cabin for the Girl Scouts and the sketch of the cabin in the center of the board shows it about half completed. Logs will be added as the Fund progresses.

At the end of vacation period the Hospital will resume its series of bulletin board panels to bring a variety of facts to the passing public.

**August - Rotary Notes -** The Rotary Club is going to build the Girl Scout Cabin in the Fells! By that is meant that the men of the club are going to build this new building for the Girl Scouts of Winchester with their own hands. Recently it was voted by the Rotary Club of Winchester to contribute the planning, the supervision and the fruits of their own labors to this most worthy community cause. With the money already raised and the hope of more to come from interested parents and people of Winchester, it is expected that the additional efforts in the way of planning and labor cost by the club members will enable this well-planned building to erect by early this fall.

Under the able leadership of Al Elliott as Chairman, together with Nick Fitzgerald, Harry Chefalo, Sid Elliott, Bill Cleary and Charlie Murphy, plans are already under way to make this one of the most unique community efforts that the Rotary has ever undertaken. Working closely with this committee is the Girl Scout group headed by Brad Hersey. What group of men are better able to produce a great house for the 600 Winchester Girl Scouts? The new plans drawn by Bill Davies have been approved by State and National officials - the ground has been broken - the water and sewer lines are already laid - and part of the money necessary for the equipment, building materials and skilled labor has already been pledged. Much material such as bricks for the fireplace, roofing, paint, plumbing equipment and kitchen equipment have already been offered at cost, with the necessary planning and installation being given free.

The date for the actual building for the cabin has not, yet, been set for there is much work to be done before the actual culmination of all these plans. There is more money to raise, more equipment to be furnished either free or at cost, much sifting of eager members of Rotary into various committees that can best do the work suited to their individual talents. The committee under Al Elliott and Brad Hersey would appreciate all help in either of these needs. Further details will appear in the Star. In the meantime, the committee is going ahead with plans for on of the best Girl Scout cabins in the country.

\*\*\*Bill Davies was a Winchester resident and architect.

**September -**

**Letter to the Editor: 9-9-1949**

A report of progress: To those who have contributes --Thanks a million!  
To those who are about to contribute - a gentle nudge.

We have come a long way since we wrote you last May about our plans for a Year-Round Center for Winchester Girl Scouts in the Fells off South Border Road. Then we had only a permit from the MDC for the free use of this beautifully wooded site with its acres of trail for nature hikes, bird walks, skiing, its huge playfield for archery, softball, parades and pageants - a faith in the future.

That faith has been partially fulfilled with gifts of almost 500 people totaling \$7,600. Of this amount, we've spent a better part of \$2,500 to run town water and sewer 360 feet to the site - a permanent and foolproof safeguard well worth the money. Our former cabin too small for our growing Scout population of aver 500, was sold for \$900 for use by the VFW.

The Girl Scouts themselves have done a heart-warming job of raising money: Suzie sold seashells (6 cents), Ellen picked blueberries (\$1), Mary cleaned house (25 cents), Jean's baby-sitting (80 cents); one troop sold fat (\$7), another made and sold fudge (\$12). It's a big effort but a small total.

130 Day Campers this summer proudly showed guests their newly cleared Unit sites; Woodpecker's Hole, Blueberry Circle, Friendship Grove. A special feature was the flag ceremony around the newly painted and equipped 65-foot steel flagpole - a gift of the Town. Now the Rotary Club has made this the bang-up community wide project that it should be by offering their personal labor for the actual construction. However, with our bank balance at \$5,500 we must have another \$4,000 to cover the cost of materials, machines, equipment and specialized labor before there will be any nails to pound. Watch the Star for details.

Bill Davies' excellent plans show ample cooking facilities both inside and out for small and large groups. The Office is really the combines Staff Room and Health Unit, the main room insulated and heated for winter use, will house a good leisure time library, games, crafts and plenty of room for dancing and theatricals. The balcony will sleep twenty girls for overnights, weekends and weekday summer camping.

We have no alumnae association. We depend on the understanding support of Winchester citizens like you to make these farsighted plans come true for your Winchester girls 9more than half of them are Scouts, you know). Our only income is our allotment from the Community Fund for minimum operating costs. Therefore, we must meet the entire cost of this building and equipment in this drive - our only one in twenty years. The Community Fund has reasonably asked us to complete this campaign by September. Let's finish the job now. Ask your neighbor - tell your friends. "Buy a Log" today. Send your contribution to James B. Willing, Treasurer, 16 Ledyard Road, Winchester.

With Sincere Appreciation,  
Olive K. Miller, Chairman August 1949

### Report September 9, 1949

## PROGRESS REPORT ON THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN

### CONTRIBUTIONS

2 Kegs of Nails .. By Al Elliott

10,000 Bricks .. Phil Gallagher

Free Advice .. John Navarro

Certain Number of Gallons of Paint .. By Frank Lane

Set of Old Law Books .. Bill Beggs

Lumber at Cost .. Dallin and Downes Lumber Company

Waterproof Building Paper .. Brad Hersey

This Space .. By The Star

### NEEDED

Finish Lumber

Window Frames

Less Advice From Navarro

4 Gallons of Varnish

Legal Tender from Bill Beggs and Everybody

Cement

Handle for the Hammer Given By George Clark

A Number of Other Things to be Mentioned Later in this Space.

Rotarians: John Navarro, Manager of Winchester Sports Center (Bowling Alley) on Winchester Place.  
Phil Gallagher, Brick Mfg., George Clark, Fruit-Retail  
Al Elliott, Builder, Bill Beggs, Lawyer  
Volunteers: Frank Lane, Brad Hersey



# **PROGRESS REPORT ON THE BUILDING OF THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN**

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## **CONTRIBUTED**

Plumbing Fixtures . . By  
Harry Chefalo and Pat  
Foley

Flagstone Layer in Chief  
. . John Wallace

Kitchen Equipment . .  
Planned and given at cost  
by John Rutherford

Aspirin for the Commit-  
tee . . Hevey's Drugstore

Two Hundred Cement  
Blocks . . By the Mass.  
Cement Block Co.

Five Gallons of Stain . .  
By Hillside Wallpaper and  
Paint Co.

This Space . . By the Star

Lock-Sets and Locks . .  
By Fells Hardware Co.

## **NEEDED**

Hardware for Doors and  
Windows

Roofing Material

Flashings for the Roof

Finish Nails

Window Shades

Money to Buy all Above

Money to Pay for Skilled  
Labor

Money

Offers for Anything to  
the Comm.

Rotarians: Harry Chefalo, Plumber  
John Rutherford, Rutherford Equipment Company, 2 A Mt. Vernon Street.  
Pat Foley, Real Estate, Bill Hevey, Past Service Rotarian  
John Wallace, Prosthodontist

Report September 23, 1949

## PROGRESS REPORT ON THE BUILDING OF THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN

### CONTRIBUTED

Power Saw . . . Loaned by  
Tip Murphy

Large Sign on the Com-  
mon . . . Loaned by the Win-  
chester Hospital

Sign Decoration . . . Paint-  
ed by Staff Rogers

Piano . . . Given by Mrs.  
Frank Edwards

200 Mounted Birds . .  
Donated by Fred Ives, Jr.

Power Unit . . . Loaned by  
Stanley Johnson

Load of Concrete . .  
Given by Wakefield Ready-  
mix Concrete Co.

This Space . . . By the Star

### NEEDED

Reinforcement Rods of  
any size

Insulating Material

Roofing Nails

Window Shades

Flagstones

Skilled Labor of all  
Kinds

Money Again and Still  
Again

Helpful Cooperation  
from all.

Volunteers: Tip Murphy, Staff Rogers, Mrs. Frank Edwards, Fred Ives Jr., Stanley Johnson

Report September 23, 1949

## GIRL SCOUT CABIN PROJECT

The building committee of the Winchester Rotary Club would like to hear from any one willing to donate their personal services to help in the building of the new girl scout cabin. Just fill in the coupon below and mail it to Alfred D. Elliott, 45 Church street.

Name .....

Street .....

Tel. ....

When available .....

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun.

P. S.

Let us all pitch in - register today - a day - a week - a few hours - anytime you are available - it will be a lot of work a lot of fun and a swell project.

## REPORT ON PROGRESS OF BUILDING THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN

### CONTRIBUTIONS

Architect's Design and Plans .. William W. Davies III, Thos. Worcester & Co.

300 Concrete Cement Blocks .. Ideal Concrete Block Co. - Mr. Borgoyne

100 Concrete Blocks .. Cambridge Builders' Supply Co. - Joe Masser

Keg of Roofing Nails .. George W. Cary

100 Concrete Blocks .. Gentle Cement Block Co. - Woburn

2 Loads of Sand - 2 Loads Gravel .. Michael McGonigle - Cross street

Steel Reenforcements .. Boston Steel Co. - Lawrence Burke

Two Cart Wheel Chandeliers .. Henry Frederick - New Boston, N. H.

Screening and a French Door .. H. Kelsey Moore, Jr.

### NEEDED

Glass Doors for Cabinet to House Mounted Birds

Coffee (hot and well served) for Volunteer Helpers

Cable for Lighting Fixtures

Girl Scout Fathers to Volunteer. (Note: There will be a skilled worker on the job every day from now on so an hour-half day or full day given will be welcome.)

Refrigerator (New or Second Hand)

Weather Stripping of any Kind

Sloan's Liniment for Workers

Money for 'Skilled Labor Fund.'

### Skilled Labor Fund and Skilled Labor Contributed

Richard Riga - Mason Worker - Cross Street  
Gave a full day's work last Sunday

Mrs. Sophie Bowman - Gave \$50 to fund

Ralph Bonnell - gave \$25.

**THIS FUND PROJECT WILL BE REPRINTED AND  
(WE HOPE) ADDED TO EACH WEEK**

**THE WINCHESTER NATIONAL BANK IS HAPPY TO CONTRIBUTE ITS REGULAR ADVERTISING SPACE FOR THIS WORTHY CAUSE.**

Rotarians: Ralph Bonnell, Automobiles Retail

Volunteers: William W. Davies, Architect, Mr. Borgoyne, Joe Masser, George W. Cary, Michael McGonigle, Lawrence Burke, H. Kelsey Moore Jr., Richard Riga, Mrs. Sophie Bowman

October -

Report October 7, 1949

PROGRESS REPORT OF BUILDING THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN	
CONTRIBUTIONS	NEEDED
Kitchen Equipment .. by EnKa	Folding Tables .. Both card table and large church size
Moving Equipment from old cabin site: .. H. J. Erskine & Son	Folding Chairs
Grass Seed for Parade Grounds .. Chandler W. Sym- mes	Finish Nails
Band-aids for Volunteer Workers .. Hevey's Drug- store	Flooring Material
Moving Debris From Old Site .. James A. Cullen	Most of all there needs to be more cooperation from Girl Scout Fathers and other Men in town for not only labor but contributions to the skilled labor fund. This is a large item of expense and any con- tribution large or small is most welcome now.
Hot Coffee for Workers .. Horace Ford & Randalls	
Cleaning Up Old Site .. Mr. and Mrs. Bertram A. Mil- ler & Family	
<b>Skilled Labor Fund and Skilled Labor Contributed</b>	
<b>To The Fund:</b>	<b>Skilled Labor</b>
Mrs. Sophie Bowman	Richard Riga - Mason for one full day
Mr. Ralph Bonnell	Eighteen men from Beggs & Cobb - one full day Saturday
Mr. Francis J. Thornton	Alfred and Sid Elliott - Many days and hours.

Rotarians: Chandler Symmes, Feed and Grain  
Jim Cullen, Land Development, Al Elliott, Builder  
Volunteers: Mr. & Mrs. Bertram Miller and Family, Richard Riga, Sid Elliott

## PROGRESS REPORT OF BUILDING THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN

### CONTRIBUTIONS

Apple Turnovers - Mrs. Al Elliott

2 Kegs of nails - Fells Hardware

Spring window for display for Bldg. Fund Drive - Myron Berlow - Dorothy Muriel

Sloan's Liniment - McCormack's Apothecary

### NEEDED

Folding Chairs

Folding Tables

Flooring Material

More Cooperation from Scout fathers

More coffee for Saturday morning and Sunday morning

Senior Scouts will serve - call Mrs. Curtis, Winchester 6-1713.

### Skilled Labor Fund and Skilled Labor Contributed

#### To The Fund:

Mrs. Sophie Bowman

Mrs. Ralph Bonnell

Mr. Francis Thornton

#### Skilled Labor

Beggs and Cobb

18 men -

half day on Saturday

Several Scout Fathers  
but not enough!

Rotarians: Ralph Bonnell, Automobiles-Retail

Francis Thornton, Rotarian, Tanning

Volunteers: Mrs. Al Elliott, Myron Berlow, Mrs. Sophie Bowman

## **PROGRESS REPORT OF THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN**

### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

Lumber at Cost - Genral  
Builder's Supply Co.

Steel reenforcing rods -  
Oscar H. Horowitz Co., North-  
ern Steel Co.

Two kegs of nails - Fells  
Hardware Co.

Coffee and doughnuts -  
Scout Troops 10 and 43

Remove old septic tank and  
refill - Thomas Quigley

### **NEEDED**

Flooring Material

More Cooperation from  
Scout Fathers

More Coffee for Saturday  
and Sunday Mornings

Senior Scouts to serve same  
call Mrs. Curtis, Winchester  
6-1713

Bring Your Own Hammer

### **Skilled Labor and Skilled Labor Fund Contributed**

Mrs. Sophie Bowman  
Mr. Ralph Bonnell  
Mr. Francis Thornton  
Mr. Dan Beggs, Jr.  
Mr. Charles Burke  
Mr. Frank Pandolph  
Mrs. Gilman Wallace  
An Interested Organization

Roy Wilson - two full days  
Walter Carroll - two full  
days  
Donald Elliott - two full days  
Some of the Rotarians are  
now classed as skilled  
labor  
Al Elliott is skilled but not  
labor  
Charlie Murphy is neither.

Rotarians: Thomas Quigley, General Contracting, Ralph Bonnell, Rotarian, Al Elliott, Builder, Charlie  
Murphy, Oil Products Retail, Francis Thornton, Tanning, Dan Beggs, Lawyer,  
Volunteers: Thomas Quigley, Mrs. Sophie Bowman, Charles Burke, Frank Pandolph, Gilman Wallace,  
Roy Wilson, Walter Carroll, Donald Elliott,

## PROGRESS REPORT ON THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN

### CONTRIBUTIONS

Flashing Material and Nails  
Russell Symmes

Wood Flooring for Dormitory - John Volpe

Money for Three Toilets - Harry Damon

Stainless Steel Sink at Cost - Larry Burke

Heatalator - Substantial Reduction - William Simpson Co. Cambridge

### Skilled Labor and Skilled Labor Fund Contributions

Mrs. Sophie Bowman

Mr. Ralph Bonnell

Mr. Francis Thornton

Mr. Daniel Beggs

Mr. Charles Burke

Mr. Frank Pandolph

Mr. Gilman Wallace

An Interested Organization

Two Large Anonymous Gifts

Fortnightly

### NEEDED

Still needed are folding chairs which cost \$2.00 each and folding tables which cost \$22 each. Money for these or the articles would be quite acceptable

Andirons for four foot fireplace

Fluorescent lighting for office

Window Shades

Roy Wilson - two days

Walter Carroll - two days

Donald Elliot - two days

(These days are Saturday and Sunday when most people rest)

Charlie Murphy is now classed as semi-skilled

Joe Moffett has donated his thumb towards skilled labor

There are also scout fathers who are skilled but are too numerous to mention.

Rotarians: Russell Symmes, Milk Distribution, Charlie Murphy, Oil Products Retail, Joe Moffett, Transportation

Volunteers: Harry Damon, John Volpe, Larry Burke, Frank Pandolph, Gilman Wallace, Roy Wilson, Walter Carroll, Donald Elliott,

**October 28, 1949 -** An interim report meeting of the Girl Scout Cabin Building Fund was held at the Girl Scout Office on Wednesday evening, October 19th. Twenty-two members -eight of them men- were present to discuss the remarkable progress made by on the cabin, and to hear two Girl Scout representatives, Mrs. Miriam Bryant of the National Staff, who is Consultant on Outdoor Activity and Mrs. Harriet Fish, Sectional Advisor of the Regional Staff.

Mrs. Burton Miller spoke of the cabin in glowing terms as a truly community effort. She described the wonderful cooperation of the men of the community who through such mediums as the Rotary Club, have procured much of the material needed for the Cabin either free or at cost. She told of the hours of skilled and unskilled labor given by the men, and of the leaders and Girl Scouts who have served coffee to those on the job. She also spoke of the contributions made by many organizations in the community and said the men of the Water and Sewer Department were giving their free time to laying pipes up to the cabin.

### Girl Scout Report October -

Mrs. Metcalf spoke in the place of Mrs. Cary (our Commissioner, who couldn't go because of illness) and her speech was well received ....and why not?? .... she spoke on "Community Resources" of which we have a-plenty and which has so generously given toward the new Cabin! Knowing her

enthusiasm, we can safely say that the wonderful cooperation of the Rotary and all other town agencies who have helped the Girl Scout Council build our Cabin were duly praised. And other towns may well have hope and inspiration from her talk! We in Winchester know it can be done!

Mr. George Cary and Mrs. Burton Miller are working with Dr. Pollard of Rotary on the program for the Dedication of the Girl Scout Cabin....which is to take place on Sunday, December 4th at about 2:15 P.M.....so all leaders and mothers please plan an early dinner that day.... and see you there! You will have a thrill when you see the Cabin...it's a honey, and all we dreamed and hoped for!

## **November -**

**11-4-49: Rotary Notes** - On the lighter side, Al Elliott, who is rumored to be wearing John Wallace's red shirt, gave a report on the progress of the Girl Scout Cabin, featuring John Wallace's amazing abilities in all departments. However, the Chinese say one picture is worth a thousand words, an Al took them at their word, as he had Joe Coulter on hand with some documentary film. Joe did a masterful job, but the Rotary Rogues will never make Hollywood. It was a beautiful colored film, and the opening scene showed Charlie Murphy unloading cement blocks, (this was more than Phil Gallagher could stand), and fifteen minutes later another scene showed Charlie still working on the same block. When Don Simonds graced the scene, he was on the staging at about the center of the roof with Ralph Purrington. Next scene Ralph had worked his way up to the ridge pole, but Don, yes, it's true, was still on the same staging in the same place, which caused Sanford Moses some concern.

### **Report November 4 & 11, 1949**

<b>PROGRESS REPORT ON THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN</b>	
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS</b>	<b>NEEDED</b>
Keg of Nails - Won at the Parkhurst School Penny Sale by Mrs. John Gibbons	Folding tables and chairs
Coffee and doughnuts and sandwiches - Girl Scouts	Window Shades
Money for Special Police on Halloween Night - Under pro- test from John Wallace and John Navarro	Andirons for four foot fire- place
	Fluorescent lighting for office
<b>Skilled Labor and Skilled Labor Fund Contributions</b>	
Mrs. Sophie Bowman	Roy Wilson - Labor
Mr. Ralph Bonnell	Walter Carroll
Mr. Francis Thornton	Donald Elliot
Mr. Daniel Beggs, Jr.	More Scout Fathers
Mr. Charles Burke	Charlie Murphy is now semi- volunteer
Mr. Frank Pandolph	Sid Eliot
Mr. Gilman Wallace	Al Eliot (Building and rebuild- ing old staging)
An Interested Organization	Harold Bolduc (brick laying)
Two Large Anonymous Gifts	Harry Baker, Jr. (staining)
Fortnightly	
Mr. Henry Davis	

Rotarians: John Navarro, Bowling Alleys, John Wallace, Prosthodontia, Ralph Bonnell Automobiles Retail, Daniel Beggs, Law General Practice, Charlie Murphy, Oil Products Retail, Al Elliott, Builder, Volunteers: Mrs. John Gibbons, Mrs. Sophie Bowman, Charles Burke, Frank Pandolph, Gilman Wallace, Henry Davis, Roy Wilson, Walter Carroll, Donald Elliott, Sid Elliott, Harold Bolduc, Harry Baker Jr.



**11-11-49 - Rotary Notes** - You should have seen Pat Foley in his overalls, and Charlie Murphy, Harry Chefalo, Joe Moffett, Ralph Bonnell, Ralph Purrington, Mal Bennett had a carpenter's apron on. So, did Bill Hevey and John Wallace. You could go on forever, but that's the way they showed up for the regular Rotary meeting, which was called to order at 12:15P.M., Thursday, November 3, 1949 by brick mover, third class, Charlie Murphy. These working clothes are a bit unusual, but the motive was also unusual, for after the meeting the members journeyed to the Girl Scout Cabin and put in a full afternoon of work.

### **11-18-49 - Girl Scout Report -**

Mrs. George Cary, our Commissioner, announces the dedication of the Cabin will take place on Sunday, December 4th at 2:15 P.M. Mrs. Bertram Miller and Dr. Pollard are planning the ceremony so it should be impressive. All parents are cordially invited to be present, and of course the troops will be there, for no one will want to miss the most wonderful occasion, for this is to be their center for all year-round activities.... both fun and work. Rotary will be there, as well as all those who have done so much to help us. But Mrs. Miller and Dr. Pollard can tell more about that next week.... Watch for it

### **11-25-49 - Girl Scout Report -**

Made possible through the cooperation of the Community Chest, the townspeople of Winchester, and the enthusiastic leadership of the Rotary Club, the Girl Scouts new cabin will be ready for dedication on December 4th.

### **Report November 25, 1949**

## **REPORT ON THE GIRL SCOUT CABIN**

For the last two weeks those amateur carpenters and bricklayers who had ideas that they were really professional have been taken down a peg by being given shoveling and leveling work on the floor of the cabin and outside porch to do. In view of their willingness to work however the cabin is beginning to shape up for the big date of the dedication which will be Sunday December 4th. Even the fireplace has been tried out with waste lumber and found wonderful.

**There are a few remaining Thank-You items to clear up before the end is reached. They are as follows:**

Lumber left over and nails etc., from building his garage -- Brad Hersey.

Insulation for all the plumbing -- Blanchard Lumber Company.

Hand wrought irons made to order for outdoor fireplace -- Fulton Brown.

Fluorescent lighting fixtures -- Beta Sigma Phi Society.

Asphalt Tile Flooring -- En Ka.

Sewer and Water Department men gave time to put in sewer and water pipes to cabin.

Furnishings for Cabin -- Kenneth Pond.

Flagstones less cost -- Frizzell Bros., Woburn.

Gravel for fill -- McGonigle Bros.

Volunteers: Brad Hersey, Fulton Brown, Kenneth Pond

**By George Croft**

Every resident, professional man, shopkeeper, housewife and schoolchild in Winchester will celebrate on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 4, one of the greatest examples of community spirit in New England history with the dedication of a \$25,000 Girl Scout cabin on the Middlesex Fells Reservation in Winchester.

Every person in the town, schoolchildren and adults contributed in some way, shape or manner to the erection of the recreation cabin which resembles a swank Swiss lodge more than a replica of an early American building.

Doctors, dentists, printers, soda counter men, laundry workers, gasoline service station owners, contractors, architects, students, town workers, the superintendent of schools and the Winchester Hospital Administrator are still nursing injured thumbs and sore backs received when they contributed 10,000-man labor hours on week-ends, holidays and afternoons to build the cabin.

Armed with hammers, saws and kegs of nails, men who did not know a cross beam from a lally column, pounded, sawed, molded and gave breath of life to a dream cherished by the 600 Girl Scouts and 250 adults of the Winchester Council for the last 10 years.

#### **Rotarians' Idea**

The idea of volunteer manpower and contributions of materials either at cost or free came from the Winchester Rotary Club members, when an appeal for financial aid by the Girl Scouts to erect the cabin bogged down.

One by one the townspeople fell in behind the Rotary Club to aid the Girl Scout cause. "Sure, we can give more cash, but how about 500 feet of lumber, 10,000 bricks for the fireplace, windows, a door, sash weights, or could you use some plaster" businessmen said. And the drive was on. Instead of playing golf, tennis, attending a cocktail party or playing bridge, the men of the community, as many as 200 at a time, donned overalls and made their way to the cabin site to work. The Girl Scouts raised \$12,000 in a drive. This money they put into buying the materials donated at cost. The rest, labor and other materials, including furniture is being donated.

Winchester building contractors report the building, without volunteer labor and

materials would cost at bare minimum \$25,000 just to erect.

#### **99 Year Lease**

Metropolitan District Commissioners gave as a present a 99-year lease of the camp site to the Girl Scouts.

En-Ka, a charity organization, which holds a street fair every May, donated this year's proceeds to help install a modern kitchen and to have asphalt floor tiles laid throughout the cabin. **(see correction)**

The cabin, dedicated "Camp Joy" is situated just off South Border Road, Winchester. It is 45 feet long and 43 feet wide. Contained in the cabin are a recreation-living room, running the full length of the building complete with a huge fireplace, a shining modern kitchen, a council chamber, an outside tiled terrace with fireplace, and a 20-bed balcony dormitory.

Girl Scouts will use the insulated, heated cabin for Winter and Summer sports. They are planning weekend campaign trips, square dances, pajama parties, and holiday celebrations to be held there. Sixty percent of all the girls of school age in Winchester are members of the Scouts. Each troop is donating something to furnish the cabin. One troop is making curtains.

#### **Steel Flag Pole**

The town presented the Scouts with a 64-foot steel flag pole, and town employees donated the labor needed to install the water and sewer systems from the road to the cabin some 500 feet away in the woods. Winchester Girl Scout Commissioner Mrs. George W. Carey will preside at the dedication ceremonies Sunday afternoon, Dec. 4. She will read a history of the project being compiled by Dr. Eugene Pollard.

Mrs. Burton A. Miller was chairman of the building committee. Rotary Club Pres. Charles Murphy organized the volunteer labor and Alfred Elliott had charge of construction. Plans for the cabin were drawn by architect William Davies. Scout Council executive director Mrs. Barbara Metcalf acted as coordinator between the various town groups and committees.

## **December -**

**12-2-1949** - With a fire roaring in the fire place to warm our toes, the dedication of our Cabin will, on Sunday, December fourth, bring to fulfillment the dream of the entire Council of Girl Scouts!

All leaders and their troops in uniform, the Council, townspeople who are interested, all who gave of time, money, labor or goods, as well as representatives of the National Council will gather to dedicate our Cabin to and for the Girl Scouts of Winchester. The Reverend Bailey of the First Baptist Church will give the Invocation... and rightly so, as he has been so cooperative with and understanding of all Scouting aims.... Dr. Pollard, of Rotary will be the Narrator and tell briefly the story of how Rotary got behind and pushed, and made our dream come true. He will then introduce our Commissioner, Mrs. George Cary, who will express our appreciation and then turn the Cabin over to the "Junior Council" (which consists of a girl from each troop) which is to set up the rules for use and maintenance of the Cabin.....In this way, the girls will be living the Scout laws as well as the democratic principles of Scouting and these United States....Father O'Neil will close the dedication with a fitting benediction for he too, is interested in our young people.

### **Correction in Star - 12-2-49**

If you saw the fine article in the Saturday night Globe, we wish to correct one statement.... i.e. that the En Ka gave us their entire Street Fair proceeds.... **This is Not So.** All Winchester knows full well that many organizations benefit from the generosity of En Ka.....and the Winchester Council of Girl Scouts is but one of the many, and we are grateful for their thoughtfulness.

A **Gift Committee** has been set up to act as a clearing house for people's generosity.... and thus, prevent duplication of gifts. If you wish to give any furnishings or such would you please call any one of these members of our Committee.....Mrs. George Cary, Winchester 6-1480; Mrs. Maxwell McCreery, Winchester 6-2036; or Mrs. Murray Moore, Winchester 6-1466....Thanks for everything.

## **THANKS, FROM THE SCOUTS**

Editor of the Star:

May I use the medium of the Star to say, "Thank you" to all who have in any way participated in the building of the new cabin for the Girl Scouts. The Rotary Club has done a perfectly superb job for us that we find words inadequate to express our thanks, and the generosity of the townspeople has been inspirational. We would like to commend the Police Department for their cooperation and excellent coverage of our building while it was in the process and during our recent dedication service. Certainly, all departments of our town have gone out of their way to show us their friendliness and we shall always gratefully remember it.

Yours sincerely,

Hazel E. Cary, Commissioner

(Mrs. George W. Cary)

**Boston Globe Article: December 5, 1949:**

**\$25,000 Girl Scout Cabin Dedicated in Middlesex Fells at Winchester**

Winchester, Dec 4 - With a display of one of the greatest examples of community spirit in New England history, dedication exercises of the new \$25,000 Girl Scout Cabin on South Border road in the Middlesex Fells Reservation was held this afternoon attended by over 400.

Dr. Eugene Pollard, Winchester, amateur actor, narrated the history of the program that saw the Scout cabin spring from an idea to the finished job.

Mrs. George Cary presented special Scout awards as thanks to the following: Alfred Elliott, builder; Charles Murphy, president of the Rotary Club; Nicholas Fitzgerald of the Board of Selectmen; Harry Chefalo of the Rotary Club; William Cleary, Sidney Elliott, the Rotary Club.

Two fathers of Girl Scouts, Walden B. Hersey, chairman of the building committee, and James B. Willing, treasurer of the same committee, received special pins. Mrs. Burton A. Miller, over-all chairman, also received a pin.

Former Winchester Girl Scout commissioners, Mrs. Harold V. Farnsworth, Mrs. Clifton Hall and Mrs. Harrison Lyman, were special guests.

Girl Scouts provided entertainment with community singing and hymns.

Rev. Walter Bailey of the Winchester Baptist Church gave the invocation and Rev. John T. O'Neil gave the benediction.

**"\$25,000 Girl Scout Cabin Dedicated in Middlesex Fells at Winchester." *Daily Boston Globe* (1928-1960): 5. Dec 05, 1949. ProQuest. Web. 2 Aug. 2016.**



# Winchester Girl Scout Cabin Could Have Cost \$25,000

## Ceremonies Attended by Over 200 at Grounds in Middlesex Fells, Off South Border Road

The "cabin in the woods" of the Winchester Council of Girl Scouts which would have cost approximately \$25,000.00 if it was not for the public spirit that entered into the picture, was officially dedicated yesterday afternoon with over 300 present. The cabin is located in the Middlesex Fells off South Border Road and the one and one half story structure is completed with the exception of some finishing touches to the roof.

The dedicatory exercises opened by Rev. Walter Lee Bailey, pastor of the First Baptist Church, and then Dr. Eugene Pollard chairman of public relations of the Winchester Rotary Club gave the narration which gave a picture of the start and accomplishment of the project.

Dr. Pollard said that the community fund had pledged a certain amount of money to the Girl Scouts for the movement in Winchester and that inspired the start of a cabin. It was soon found that financial resources were far from the goal established, so the question was broached by the Winchester Rotary Club. The Rotarians talked of cash aid, but later supplemented their desire to help by volunteering services, so the carpenters, plumbers, and other artisans connected with Rotary volunteered their time and ingenuity. The ground was broken the second week in September and every week-end found scores of workmen carrying out the assignment. The Rotarians spearheaded the public spirit of other individuals so non-Rotarians and non-Girl Scouts all joined in the work, so up to date it is estimated that 10,000 man work hours were contributed to the project.

A part of the ceremonies yesterday was the recognition of those who contributed outstanding service to the cabin construction. Mrs. George Carey, Girl Scout Commissioner awarded the certificates. William W. Davies III, was the architect who drew the plans and laid out the work. He was awarded a certificate and one went to Sidney Elliott who directed the construction. Harry J. Chefalo, plumber and Rotarian who directed that part of the enterprise and to Charles E. Murphy President of Rotary, who received the award for Rotary and one for himself personally.

Special scout pins were awarded to Mrs. Burton Miller, chairman of the Building Fund Drive, her husband Burton E. Miller, W. B. Hersey and James Willing.

The benediction was given by Rev. Francis O'Neill of St. Mary's Church. Among those present were people high in the councils of the Girl Scout movement including Mrs. Miriam Bryan, National Council President and Mrs. Thomas Jordan.

The new club house is of wooden construction, 45 by 42 feet. The first floor has a recreation room which can be used for an assembly hall, kitchen, toilet and office facilities. The building is one and a half stories and the second floor can accommodate sleeping quarters for 20 girls. A huge fireplace has been constructed inside the cabin and another on the grounds for outside weenie roasts and campfire meetings.

The building would have cost \$25,000, the experts state if it was not for the public spirit which crystallized into practical results.

Text - Newspaper (?) Article - December 5, 1949

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# GIRL SCOUTS HAIL CABIN

## Winchester Rotary Club Builds Structure

A \$25,000 Girl Scout cabin that was constructed by Winchester residents and members of the Winchester Rotary Club who contributed 10,000 man-hours to the project, was dedicated yesterday, in the Middlesex Fells Reservation off South Border rd., Winchester.

Dr. Eugene Pollard of the Winchester Rotary Club said the Girl Scout Council applied to the Community Fund for aid but, because the amount which could be given was not substantial, sought and found help at the Rotary organization. Members of the club and residents built the cabin, which is completed except for the roof, he said.

Mrs. George T. Cary, Girl Scout commissioner, presented awards of merit to the Rotary Club and to individuals. Those who received them included: Alfred Elliott, a builder, who made the blueprints for the cabin; William W. Davies, an architect, and Sidney A. Elliott, who supervised the construction of the 1½-story structure; Harry J. Chefalo, a plumber, and Charles E. Murphy, president of the Rotary Club.

Special Girl Scout pins were given to Mr. and Mrs. Burton E. Miller, the latter having been chairman of the campaign fund; W. V. Hershey and James Willing. The invocation was given by the Rev. Walter Bailey, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Winchester, and the benediction was given by the Rev. Francis T. O'Neil of St. Mary's Church, Winchester.

Among the more than 300 present at the dedicatory ceremonies was Mrs. Miriam Bryan, national council member of the Girl Scouts.

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Among more than 300 presents was Mrs. Miriam Bryan, national council member of the Girl Scouts.

## Article and Letter to the Editor Winchester Star: December 9, 1949

### Dedication - December 4, 1949

The dedication of our Girl Scout Cabin will long be remembered by our girls as well as their parents, friends the Rotary Club and various Scout officials from the National, Regional and Massachusetts Headquarters. It was cold up there in the Fells what with the fresh snow and all, but the warm glow of the fire in the outside fireplace reminded us of our own inner glow that comes from a job well done...! For as Dr. Pollard said in his narration, it was a sweltering day in August when Al Elliott stated that Rotary should not give money, but build the Cabin for the Girl Scouts." It is really an epochal achievement for three reasons: 1) it is a fulfillment of a dream; 2) it was for the most part done in such a brief period (from the second week in September until the dedication December 4th); and finally, 3) it revealed a community spirit long dormant but quickly fanned to the height of "Let's do it" by the men of Rotary.

The ceremony was pleasantly brief. Mr. Bailey's kindly invocation and Father O'Neil's benediction made us again cognizant of the Greater Spirit over all our efforts. Mrs. Cary's "M.C.ing" was as always, easy and friendly and humorous; and after the narration by Dr. Pollard, her remarks as she presented the Awards were very apropos. Watching from our vantage point, we had the pleasure of watching the faces of the several men, listening in great patience then gradually registering that Hazel Cary was really meaning each one as she gave the job description and finally the name; Those who received Scout Awards were; The Rotary Club, Al Elliott, Charlie Murphy, Bill Davies, Harry Chefalo, Bill Cleary and Nick Fitzgerald. Next Hazel Cary awarded pins for their untiring efforts to: Brad Hersey for being so patient with the distaff side pros and cons about the Cabin; Jay Willing for keeping such excellent books for the Cabin Fund Committee; Burt Miller for his aiding and abetting, and his selfless living during the campaign; and last but not ever least, Olive Miller for her super job of being the Chairman of the Cabin Fund drive, etc., etc., (and those are many). To the recipients of awards, the pins and all else who helped in **Any Way; Thanks a Million!**

This dream of the Winchester Council of Girl Scouts has revealed en route to its completion, a wealth of friends we didn't know we had; and a community spirit among our men that snow-balled into the building of our Cabin. Many who came to watch stayed to help.... some with hammer and sore thumbs; some with shovel; or some with concrete or bricks and mortar... and aching backs; and many there are with these plus a little thinner pocket book. The thing that most recently gave us a thrill was the following letter which Al Elliott received:

"On June 3, I gave the Girl Scout Building Fund a check with my "tongue very much in my cheek" because I did not believe it would be at all possible on a contract basis to construct the building planned for anything like the money the drive was aiming at or was likely to collect." "Since that time, I have contributed only a few nails to the roof and two skun knees in the process. Your leadership and energy however, have achieved such a wonderful example of community cooperation in building the Cabin that I would like very much to help out further financially along the lines of our conversation of this morning and increase my original contribution."

"I am enclosing a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (triple the amount of the first) made out to the Winchester Girl Scout Building Fund for the use at your discretion at any point where you feel something additional is needed. I think the idea of a "crazy patchwork quilt" tiling job which you suggested would be a real addition to the future upkeep and cleanliness of the Cabin, and I would be glad to have the check applied specifically for this purpose."

"Beyond this, my wife and I would like to extend our congratulations to you, Bill Davies, Mrs. Cary, Mrs. Metcalf, and all the many others who contributed so much in the way of personal enthusiasm, energy, effort and materials to the success of this undertaking. It is a perfectly swell job, Al. You all can be very proud of it."

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

**A Girl Scout Father.**



**February 5, 1950** - We realize before it's too late that we have left Al Elliott and the Rotary Club out on a limb, by dedicating the Girl Scout Cabin before the actual work was completed. For the next two weekends, we need men to stain the interior of the cabin. It's even heated inside, now! So, come on early Saturday or Sunday and help us finish that Cabin by Washington's Birthday.

#### Winchester Girl Scouts

**April 14, 1950** - Our Cabin is fast becoming a large part of our Scouting life (as it was hoped and planned), Dot Glowacki reports. In charge of the date book for the Cabin, she says that over 30 meetings and overnights have already been signed up for in April and May! Soon, we'll have put so much more "out" in Scouting that we shall look back and wonder how on earth we got along without the Cabin! Perhaps we all were just waiting and anticipating what we could do this year.....dreaming.

In preparation for these troop overnights, yes, and cookouts, the leaders are required by National Headquarters, to have a certain specific amount of training. The first class of this Outdoors Course was held on Monday at the Cabin. There was a chill wind that day, but the sun and the friendly atmosphere made up for that. Mrs. Metcalf went over nature games, standard Scout Camping procedure, basic do's and the latest don'ts in First Aid and the use of the Kit at the Cabin.

The next class will be held on Tuesday, the 25th of April and we'd like to remind all leaders who are planning to take their troops up there that this course is required.... for at least one adult in your troop. It would be a shame to sign up for a cook-out (even Brownies may have cook-outs) or an overnight and then have the troop denied the pleasure because you have failed to take this course! So, gals, do not miss the next two classes (the 25th and the overnight at the Cabin on April 28th) as Mrs. Metcalf's schedule will not allow a repeat of the Outdoors course this spring. If you miss it, your troop will have to wait until the fall, when the classes may be repeated here, or at Cedar Hill!

On Wednesday, the Winchester Council of Girl Scouts met at the Cabin and all who have not been there before were thrilled with it. The pine trees around it, the rustic effect given the Cabin by staining it brown all contrive to make it appear as though it has always been there! Thanks to our many friends.... Rotary.....and Scout families.....it is a dream come true!



# Civic Spirit Built Winchester Girl Scouts' Camp— All Hands Chipped in to Give Town Model Cabin

BY EDWARD G. McGRATH

Camp Joy, reigning majestically on a woodland knoll of Winchester's Middlesex Fells, is a queen with a Cinderella history.

The five-section Girl Scout cabin is as ultramodern as its air conditioning system, as fashionable as its all-electric kitchen, as impressive as its interior-exterior fireplace built of enough bricks to construct a house.

Winchester real estate experts conservatively quote its value at \$25,000, but money was a secondary factor in its construction.

The cabin, as preconceived in the imagination of Winchester's 678 Girl Scouts, was to be a rough and ready base for communing with nature. Never did they anticipate the luxury that is now theirs. And when a fund-raising drive stumbled to an abrupt stop last summer far short of the goal, thoughts of the cabin-to-be gave way to disappointment.

## Town Spirit

It was then that the Scouts asked the local Rotary club for a helping hand. President Charles A. Murphy and his fellow Rotarian Alfred D. Elliott, a building contractor, reached a decision which later was to be accepted by the entire membership.

"We won't help you raise a cent," they responded roguishly, immediately adding, "We'll build the cabin."

To provide leaders building talents were funneled into a committee. Joining Chairman Elliott were his brother Sydney Elliott, and Nicholas Fitzgerald, also contractors. Electrician William Cleary and plumber Harry Chefalo added their skills.

"The start was fairly slow," explains Murphy, "but after digging the foundation—this was the day after Labor Day—it mushroomed. It seemed that everyone in town got into the spirit of the thing."

"Guess everyone thought helping the kids would be fun. That's how it was with Al Elliott and me. We like to go fishing, you see, but getting out with the gang to put the cabin together was more fun."

The volunteers worked week ends for the most part. Two skilled workers, a foreman and a carpenter, were given full time tasks. They laid out the work, put lumber on electric saws and co-ordinated efforts of the amateurs.

## Pleasant "Chiseling"

An estimated 10,000 hours of labor were donated by more than 200 townspeople. Fathers of the Scouts got into the act. Old timers who hadn't banged a nail for four or five decades aided with the lighter chores.

Business men followed the example of Harry Damon. The tannery company executive offered his personal assistance and brought 20 employees to the scene to dig a water and sewerage ditch by hand. Money raising wasn't neglected

by the Girl Scouts. They continued to do housecleaning tasks, to sell seashells, to baby sit, to pick blueberries, accept any job that promised to net a penny or dollar profit. En Ka, a Winchester women's club, held fairs and individual benefactors, many unable to assist physically, contributed financially.

"Sure it cost dough, probably \$10,000," say the Rotarians. "But chiseling gave us the luxury. Chiseling got us the best materials and equipment. Many items didn't cost a cent. Others we got at wholesale cost."

The "chiseling" which Winchesterites readily discuss with a sly wink, consisted of a full scale selling effort to acquaint manufacturers and distributors with the worthy cause. Generosity became contagious.

Before completion of the cabin, plans were altered many times to fit gifts into the building pattern. The air conditioning system, "the kind found in \$50,000 homes," was an unexpected addition. Original plans did not include a 10 by 50-foot flagstone terrace, oil heat or a tile-walled shower.

## Recreation Centre

However, the rough pine cabin, measuring 41 by 55 feet, was built with sweat as well as with enthusiasm and generosity. Half of the 70 roof timbers weighed more than 300 pounds each, and taxed the strength of men who positioned them.

Many hands numbed to the fall and winter cold. Casualties were few, with Joe Moffett, funeral director, boasting the most serious. After he hammered his thumb with a powerful but misdirected blow, appropriate ceremonies during the next Rotary Club meeting accompanied awarding of a Purple Heart assmille.

Dedication ceremonies were conducted Dec. 4, nearly two months before tools and portable generators were returned to their owners. Fifteen hundred guests, including the "kids" who henceforth would be the occupants, tread across the blue and tan squared kitchen linoleum.

Mothers lingered in the kitchen to voice approval of the spangling white electric stove, hot water heater and electric refrigerator. Stainless steel sinks and knotty pine cabinets caught many a matronly eye.

Youngsters were duly excited about the massive fireplace, opening like a huge mouth from the 16-foot-wide living room chimney. They were told that the hand hewn mantle timber is over 200 years old.

This room is the camp's recreation centre. More than 1100 square feet of floor area is covered by tan linoleum, interrupted in a spot forward of the fireplace by a green Girl Scout insignia. Above the fireplace is the head of a moose; at the opposite end of the room is a deer's head.

Yellow curtains inject the feminine touch and overhead fluorescent lamps give an indirect, subdued effect. Colored posters depicting "The Cotswolds," "Royal Leamington Spa," "The Severn at Shrewsbury," "Ross-On-Wye," and other British scenes are the only decorations on knotty pine walls.

The international posters are educational media acquainting the Scouts with communities of England and Scotland. Thirteen members of the Winchester group, accompanied by four adults, will set sail July 14 for a bicycle-train tour covering 1000 miles in the two countries.

Anticipating British hospitality, they plan to extend an invitation to English Scouts to visit their camp in the future.

Two cabin rooms accommodate overnight campers. Adults—not more than two—may sleep in the downstairs staff room, and beds for 18 youngsters fill the upstairs bunkroom.

Considering the manner in which the Winchester Girl Scout cabin veers from the usual, it is perhaps not extraordinary that the girls should give the privilege of an overnight christening to a dozen visitors from Montreal. Ten Canadian Girl Scouts and two leaders were the first to enjoy the camp's sleeping comforts during a three-day visit from April 14 to 16.

Before Winchester children remain overnight, their leaders must take a training course at the camp. Mrs. Barbara Metcalf, head of Winchester's Girl Scouts, has programmed camp activities for many months to come. Featured are outdoor cooking and nature walks.

Youngsters win merit badges in the electric kitchen but the zestful flavor of tin can cooking gives the crude method a higher popularity rating. Weather permitting, the girls prefer the outside fireplace to the inside duplicate.

Fathers, who still are nursing sore muscles and calloused hands, will be entertained at a cook-out on Father's Day. A tea and fashion show will bring mothers to the camp.



**Boston Sunday Post, April 23, 1950**  
**Civic Spirit Built Winchester Girl Scouts' Cabin ---**  
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## MBC Minutes Vol. 17

101st  
21, 1948  
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Oct.  
29,  
1948

roadway from Kahler Avenue to Parkway Crescent, be and hereby is accepted as completed as of October 4, 1948.

- 1 Report, October 20, on request of John Kowalczyk for permission to construct driveway entrance at 234-235 Dedham Parkway, Dedham. Approved.
- 2 Report, October 21, requesting permission to extend the work of contract number 579 for resurfacing of Leo M. Birmingham Parkway from Market Street to Western Avenue Circle in Brighton, John P. Condon Corporation. Approved.
- 3 Letter of Mr. Glenwood Burwell, October 21, regarding testimonial dinner to be given to Mr. Benjamin W. Pink at the Police Station, M.D.C., Middlesex Falls Parkway, Tuesday, October 26, 1948. V O T E D to notify Mr. Burwell that Messrs. McKenney, Ulin and Grigalus will definitely attend.

Action was taken upon matters relating to the Parks Division as follows:

- 4 Letter of John L. Owen, Scoutmaster of Troop Seven, West Roxbury, Boy Scouts of America, October 12, requesting permission to erect a cabin in Blue Hills Reservation for use of the Boy Scouts; also reports of Lieutenant Devereaux, October 15, and Deputy Kelleher, October 18. Approved, subject to approval of location by Associate Commissioner Rogers and Captain MacKinnon.
- 5 Letter of Winchester Council of Girl Scouts, October 19, making application for camp site in the Middlesex Falls Reservation at the place suggested by Water Commissioner Sanderson of Winchester. V O T E D to notify the Girl Scouts of Winchester to meet with Captain Rogers for the purpose of picking out another site for their camp.
- 6 Lieutenant Henry J. Sullivan, Charles River Upper Division, October 13, requesting approval of promotion of Roman Marlinski, permanent Skilled Laborer II-2, to position of Craftman III-4b; also letter from Division of Civil Service, October 7. Approved.
- 7 Memorandum of Commissioner Morrissey, October 15, on request of Boston Post Ski Editor for information regarding the proposal submitted to the Commission for construction of ski slides in the Blue Hills. V O T E D to notify Mrs. Sonja Loew that a hearing in regard to this matter will be held on Thursday, October 28, at 2:30 P.M.
- 8 List of new numbers assigned to the police officers now on the force, to take effect on November 1, 1948. Approved.
- 9 Memorandum of Mr. Curtis, October 21, in regard to setting hearing with Mr. Bradford Washburn in regard to lease of land on Charles River Dam for a museum of science. Messrs. McKenney, Ulin and Weir to meet on Wednesday, October 27, at 9:30 A.M.

The Secretary submitted for signature the following papers, which were signed by the members of the Commission:

- 10 Contract number 176-B, Construction Division, dated October 13, 1948, with Ross Valve Manufacturing Company, Inc. for furnishing and delivering gate valves, pressure reducing and regulating valves, Dow type pivot valves, automatic and manual air relief valves, cone valves, special castings and appurtenances, at Chestnut Hill Pumping Station in City of Boston, Mass.
- 11 Contract number 159-D, Construction Division, dated October 6, 1948, with The Brown Instrument Company, for furnishing and delivering gas and air compressors and storage tanks, etc. for Nut Island Sewage Treatment Plant.
- 12 V O T E D that the action of Commissioner Morrissey in approving schedules from October 13 to 21, 1948, of invoices amounting to \$520,432.39 and purchase orders amounting to \$146,377.81, be ratified and approved.

ADJOURNED at 3:40 P.M., to meet on Thursday, October 28, at 1 P.M.

*Robert P. [Signature]*

Winchester Council of Girl Scouts

17---287-5 21048 Application of, for camp site in MFR.

Voted that they meet with Capt Rogers for purpose of picking out another site for their camp.

30-178-6 29Nov62 Rq of Winchester Council Girl Scouts, to erect fence at Council Cabin area, So. Border Rd., Winchester. The Comms. VOTED: Approved; Park Engr. Div. to issue a revocable permit in accordance with the recommendations of Dept. Supt. Ward.

MPC Minutes, Card Index

COURTESY DCR ARCHIVES

Middlesex Fells Reservation

Winchester Girl Scouts

Permit to erect cabin

April 30, 1948

DCR Real Estate & Land Records  
MPC/MBC System, Tran file  
in DCR General Counsel's office

COURTESY DCR ARCHIVES



MIDDLESEX FELS

April 30, 1948

- P E R M I T -

Permission is hereby given Winchester Council of Girl Scouts, Hazel E. Carey, Commissioner, 573 Main Street, Winchester, to use a portion of the Middlesex Fells Reservation near the Winchester-Medford Line, north of South Border Road, for erection of a cabin.

This permit is issued upon the understanding that the camp will be in charge of a competent leader at all times; that the Council will provide and maintain such sanitary arrangements as shall be satisfactory to the Commission; that said premises shall be at all times kept clear of all rubbish, paper and waste material; that nothing shall be done to render the location unsightly or offensive; and that no sign or advertisement, poster, placard or notice except a flag or pennant shall be displayed upon the outside of said camp.

This permit must be exercised at all times to the satisfaction of said Commission and may be revoked at any time by said Commission or such other authority as for the time being may have the care and control of said land. Upon said revocation said Winchester Council of Girl Scouts shall at once remove said camp and leave said location in a condition satisfactory to the Commission.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION

By

(signed) Nelson Curtis

NELSON CURTIS  
Secretary

# Pre-Inventory Clearance Sale

## Friday Jan. 13 thru Sat. Jan. 28

EVERYTHING IN OUR ENTIRE STOCK REDUCED

A Few Typical Values Illustrated as Follows:

### "DR. CLINTON" ARCH-SUPPORTING SHOES

OUR REGULAR PRICES, Straps or Oxfords, are \$4.00 and \$5.00. Prior to this season "Dr. Clinton" Shoes never sold under \$5.00. Clearance Prices, \$2.95 and \$3.95

### QUEEN QUALITY

SHOES OF SUPREME QUALITY, in every detail, finer workmanship, highest grades of leather used, better fitting qualities; for afternoon or dress wear, in Pumps, Straps or Ties, regularly priced at \$6.00, \$8.00 and \$8.50. Priced for Clearance at \$4.85 and \$6.45

### FASHION SHOES

"NEW ERA," "Classics" or "Vital Arch" Shoes. All this season's Pumps, Straps and Ties, regularly priced at \$3.50 to \$5.00. For Quick Clearance \$2.65 and \$3.65

### FOR THE SCHOOL MISS!!

ONE LOT BROWN CALF, also a few two-toned Elk, college-heel Oxfords, regularly \$3.85. Now \$2.85  
ONE LOT BROWN CALF OXFORDS, AA to C, regularly priced at \$5.00. Now \$3.95  
"GIRL SCOUT" SHOES at \$3.65.

### HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

WOMEN WITH SMALL FEET, wearing sizes 3½, 4 or 4½B, Hi-Grade Shoes in these sizes, worth from \$5.00 to \$7.50, Pumps, Ties or Straps. Clearance Price \$2.95

### EVENING SLIPPERS!

BLACK LUSTREL or Moire Pumps, high heels or junior heels, at \$2.85 and \$3.85.  
WHITE PUMPS or Straps at \$2.85 and \$3.85.  
QUEEN QUALITY black satin, cuban heel Straps, 24 pairs of these shoes, sizes 3½ to 6, nothing larger; previously sold at \$6.00 and \$7.00. Clearance Price \$3.85  
60 PAIRS Women's Patent Leather Strap Shoes, both cuban and Louis heels. Clearance at \$1.95

ALL OTHER SHOES REDUCED

## McLAUGHLIN'S SHOE STORE

9 THOMPSON STREET

WINCHESTER, MASS.

TEL. WIN. 1983-M